

City Of Beverly
Department of Public Services
Michael P. Collins, P.E., Director

Snow Plowing and Snow Removal



An Emergency Parking Ban will be invoked whenever snow or ice is forecasted. DURING THE BAN, NO PARKING ON ANY STREET IS ALLOWED. Flashing BLUE lights at twelve (12) locations throughout the City are a reminder. If you have any doubt, please call the emergency snow line at 978-922-2500.

This informational brochure provides a general overview of our snow and ice program, important ordinances, frequently asked questions, and most importantly, seeks your support in providing safe streets and sidewalks during snow and ice emergencies.

Snowplowing, Sanding and Salting:

The Beverly Department of Public Services maintains the community's 161 miles of roads. During the winter months, this includes salting, sanding and plowing. During a typical Beverly winter, 4,000 tons of salt and sand are used to keep the roads safe for all drivers. The DPS also oversees the removal of snow in the downtown area and public parking areas after a storm event.

Although the majority of snowplowing and snow removal work is performed by the DPS, the Department also utilizes the services of local contractors to complement the City's fleet of 29 trucks. The latest anti-icing and snow removal techniques are employed based on up to date weather information and pavement conditions.

The City of Beverly snow and ice plan has been carefully and professionally prepared to meet the needs of the community. This plan follows predetermined routes when removing snow and ice from streets, sidewalks and City parking areas.

The timing of a storm can determine how crews will begin their cleanup. During heavy commuting times crews will make every effort to keep the major roadways clear of snow and ice. Top priority will be given to the heavily traveled roads to insure everyone's safety. Secondary and side streets will be cleared as soon as possible.

The duration of the storm also plays an important role in snowplowing and sanding operations. Storms of extended duration tax all available resources (salt, sand, equipment and employees) to keep the roads open over an extended period of time.

DPS crews will be out on the roadways as soon as possible. Motorists and pedestrians are advised to stay off the roadways until the pavement can be treated. We also urge you not to move your vehicle into the street until the snow emergency has been officially rescinded.

Your patience and cooperation are an important part of our total efforts.

Sidewalk Plowing:

The DPS will plow sidewalks along selected routes that are heavily traveled by children on their way to and from school.

Sidewalk plowing will not begin until after the snow has stopped falling and plowing has ceased. If we have back-to-back storms, we may not clear sidewalks that are along main routes or that are heavily traveled by school children until the second storm has been plowed. Your assistance is important in making sure snow is cleared from the sidewalk in front of your property.

DPS crews are generally not responsible for snow on sidewalks. Residents are responsible for snowplowing and snow removal on their own property.

Fire Hydrants/Catch Basins:

During winter months, fire hydrants and catch basins must be kept free and clear of snow and ice. This insures the safety of your neighborhood in the event of an emergency.

Keeping catch basins clear of snow and ice will reduce the possibility of street flooding during heavy rains or snow melting periods.

Your assistance is important in making sure snow is cleared from hydrants and catch basins. Please shovel the hydrant and catch basin nearest you after each storm to insure your property's protection.

Frequently Asked Questions:

Q. Can I push snow from my property onto the sidewalk or street?

A. NO. A City ordinance prohibits this act. Additionally, such action may bring liability if an accident should occur. This also increases the City's costs for snow operations.

Q. Does the City really need a parking ban?

A. YES. Snowplowing and removal are difficult; parked cars on the roadways not only increase the number of hazards, but also the time it takes to remove the snow.

Q. Do sidewalks receive the same priority as streets?

A. NO. The roads are always plowed first. Only certain sidewalks are plowed when the storm has ended. You are obligated to clear the sidewalk in front of your property.

Q. Why is snow pushed into my driveway?

A. The situation is unavoidable. The plows remove the snow from curb to curb for maximum clearance of the roadway. This provides for maximum drainage and public safety.

Q. Will trash and recycling be collected during a snowstorm?

A. YES. Trash should be placed so it does not hinder the street plows or sidewalk plows.

Q. What determines the opening, closing or delayed opening of schools during snow and ice storms?

A. The School Department is responsible for making the judgment call based on road conditions.

Q. Is overnight parking permitted?

A. NO, overnight parking is not permitted on streets during a snow emergency. Violators shall be charged a fine of fifty dollars (\$50.00) and may be towed.

City Ordinances:

Sec. 14-133. Snow/Ice Emergency Parking Ban

(a) The purpose of the emergency parking ban shall be to provide for the safe movement of police, fire and emergency medical service vehicles during snow and ice storms and otherwise provide for public safety during winter weather conditions. The parking ban shall also serve to enhance the capability of the public works department to effectively and efficiently remove snow and ice from the roadways.

(b) The parking ban shall be implemented in a manner that provides for public safety while inconveniencing the smallest number of residents for the shortest possible time.

(c) Emergency declaration of the parking ban. Snow/ice emergencies shall automatically be enacted upon occurrence of the following and be reaffirmed by a declaration by the commissioner of public works:

(1) Snow or freezing rain has fallen, or is imminent.

(2) National and/or local television and/or radio stations are predicting a snow or ice storm.

(d) Duration of emergency parking ban. The parking ban shall remain in effect for a minimum of forty-eight (48) hours. The Director of Public Services shall consult with the police chief, fire chief or their designees before the ban is rescinded.

(e) Ticketing and towing pursuant to parking ban. The chief of police shall develop procedures which insure that motor vehicles are not ticketed and/or towed unreasonably during the emergency ban.

(1) Parking shall be prohibited on all city streets for the duration of the parking ban.

(2) Vehicles parked in residential areas shall be subject to ticketing and/or towing at 8:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m., vehicles parked in business areas shall be subject to ticketing and/or towing at 10:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m. In severe storms, blizzards, or other occasions, parking may be restricted on all public streets twenty-four (24) hours a day.

(3) Winter parking ban violators shall be charged a fine of fifty dollars (\$50.00).

(f) Notification of public parking ban. Announcements of the snow emergencies shall be made by as many ways possible, some of which may be by local radio stations, local newspapers, and or on cable television stations. Announcements that the snow emergency has ended will be made by the same means.

The city will have a telephone number available, that may be called twenty-four (24) hours per day, with a recorded message that informs callers of the status of the snow emergency.

(Rev. Ords. 1973, § 15-56; Ord. No. 97, 12-16-91; Ord. No. 218, 12-6-93; Ord. No. 361, 12-31-98)

Sec. 15-23. Placing and/or depositing snow or ice into streets or sidewalks.

No person shall place or deposit any ice or snow on any street or sidewalk.

(Rev. Ords. 1973, § 16-32; Ord. No. 35, 6-20-94)

Sec. 15-24. Vehicles on sidewalks.

No person shall drive, wheel, propel or draw along any sidewalk or footpath any vehicle, except children's carriages or sleds drawn by hand; provided, however, that a driver of a vehicle may drive upon any sidewalk at a permanent or temporary driveway.

(Rev. Ords. 1973, § 16-33)

Cross reference-Motor vehicles and traffic, Ch. 14.

Last Word:

Further information on snowplowing, snow removal, parking regulations and suggestions can be directed to the DPS at **978-921-6053**. The telephone number for the recorded snow emergency message is **978-922-2500**.

For storm watch information concerning school or business closings, listen to local radio stations.

Location of Emergency Parking Ban Lights:

Beverly Farms Fire Station	Essex and Dane Streets
Cabot and Conant Streets	Gloucester Crossing
Cabot and Elliott Streets	North Beverly Fire Station
Cabot and School Streets	Park Street and Broadway
East Lothrop and Hale Streets	Rantoul and School Streets
Elliott and McKay Streets	Sohier Road and Herrick Street